

Zion National Park Historic Trails System,
Angels Landing Trail
Zion National Park
Springdale vicinity
Washington County
Utah

HAER No. UT-40-A

HAER

UTAH,

27-SPDA.V,

1A-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Location: Zion National Park
Springdale vicinity, Washington County, Utah

Date of Construction: 1926; Alterations - 1934

Architect/Designer: Thomas C. Vint and Walter Ruesch
Zion National Park

Present Owner: National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior

Present Use: Hiking Trail

Significance: Angels Landing Trail is one of the most dramatic trails ever built by the National Park Service. Built with native materials associated with the "National Park Service-Rustic" architectural style and constructed by National Park Service personnel, Angels Landing Trail possesses structural integrity. All man-made improvements on the trail were constructed by means of hand tools.

Researcher: James Jurale
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The Angeles Landing Trail takes off to the south of Scout Lookout (elevation 5,477 feet) and runs along the edge of a steep-sided sandstone ridge. The trail climbs over 300 feet in its 1/2 mile course and is neither graded nor paved. The National Park Service does not recommend this trail for unattended youngsters, those with heart or breathing problems, or those who fear heights. It is a dangerous hike at night or in inclement weather.

An erosion control stabilization program was completed on the trail by Civilian Conservation Corps personnel in March 1934. The work was supervised by Zion National Park building foreman, Walter Ruesch, and approved by Harry Langley, resident Landscape Architect at Zion National Park. Presently, the Maintenance Division of the National Park Service is responsible for maintaining chiseled footholds on the trail as well as chains and railings which have been attached to the cliff.

Bibliography

- Edwards, Guy D. "Report on Engineering Activities, Zion National Park, 1928."
Woodbury, Angus. A History of Southern Utah and its National Parks, 1950.